

## SECTION 4:

## Extension council structure

Missouri has the fourth largest number of counties of any state in the nation. MU Extension makes good use of citizen participation within these counties through an organized system of more than 1,600 Missourians in county, regional and state extension councils. At the county levels, these councils represent local needs and help guide MU Extension's programming in local communities.

### County extension councils

In all 114 Missouri counties, a county extension council of elected, appointed and delegated citizens guides local educational programming. Each county council is a legal entity with local ties that MU Extension consults as a conduit to taking the pulse of local needs and priorities. County council members are partners in the entire educational process, from needs assessment through program implementation and outcome evaluation. Because of their concern for local communities, county councils have typically benefited from advocating for MU Extension.

To improve MU Extension's operational efficiency across county lines and to provide options for financing local programs and operations, the MU Extension district option was created by the Missouri Legislature in 2013. This gives MU Extension county councils statutory authority to create single- or multiple-county districts to deliver research-based education and to allow districts to put a local property tax on the ballot to support extension programs.

A list of county extension council members and officers is available on each county's website: <http://extension.missouri.edu/directory/places.aspx>

### Regional extension councils

These include representatives from each county extension council within a given region. Each county council selects its representatives. Regional extension councils are the forums through which county councils cooperate to provide programming. These councils are responsible for:

- Discussing and exchanging information on regional issues
- Providing recommendations on topics and issues related to regional and county concerns



*Annual Council to Campus lunch connects members to university research.*

- Helping train county extension councils
- Promoting and supporting multi-county planning and programming
- Fostering the partnership between MU Extension, UMESC and the county councils
- Supporting policies and procedures jointly adopted by MU Extension and UMESC.

A list of regions, regional council officers and members is available at <http://extension.missouri.edu/extcouncil/regional-councils.aspx>.

### State extension council

The MU Extension state council is comprised of individuals who currently serve, or have served, on a county extension council and who are elected by regional extension councils. The state extension council traditionally meets the second Friday of each month.

The University of Missouri Extension State Council promotes the common interest of county councils through:

- Support for research and extension programs of MU and Lincoln University at all levels of government, and
- Dissemination of information on the need for, and advantage of, research and extension.

A list of state extension council members and officers is available at <http://extension.missouri.edu/extcouncil/state-council.aspx>.

## State extension council officers



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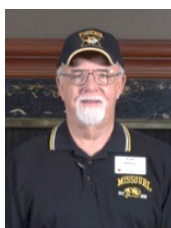


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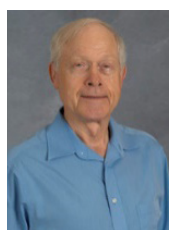
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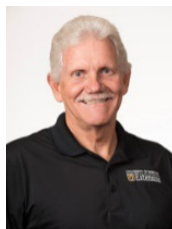


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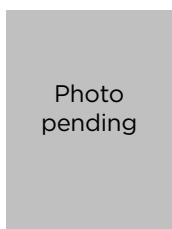
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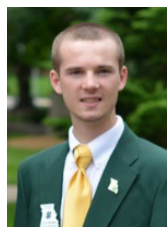


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